GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3215
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
DEMAND FOR ORGANIC FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing demand of organic food and Agricultural products in the world market − particularly developed countries;

(b) if so, the details of the facilities proposed during the Tenth Plan period for the farmers growing organic food; and

(c) the areas identified for such farming?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A National programme on organic farming is being formulated during 10th Plan period for production, promotion, market development and regulation of organic farming in the country. This includes setting up a National Institute of Organic Farming to provide the following:

i) Putting in place a system of certification of organic products
ii) Assistance for setting up of organic production units
iii) Promotion and extension of organic farming.

Regarding export development of organic products, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has also proposed a scheme during the 10th Plan period.

(c): No such area has yet been identified. However, the areas consuming very low level of agro chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides) can be more suitable for immediate conversion in to organic farming.